

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-24 are currently pending. Claims 1, 7, 13, 19 and 24 are independent and are hereby amended.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 13-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,708,961 to Hylton et al. (hereinafter, merely "Hylton") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,133,079 to Ballantyne et al. (hereinafter, merely "Ballantyne");

Claims 1-12 and 19-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly unpatentable over Hylton in view of Ballantyne and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,072,994 to Phillips et al. (hereinafter, merely "Phillips").

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claim 1 is representative and recites, *inter alia*:

"A channel selection apparatus . . .

one or more transmission signal formation devices each coupled to a respective demodulation section for providing broadcast programs that are then modulated into signals of different frequency bands;

...
a multicoupler to receive the modulated signals of different frequency bands and to permit transmitting and receiving of modulated signals of different frequency bands on the same antenna, either alone or or simultaneously and without interfering with one another.”

Claim 1 recites that the channel selection apparatus comprises a multicoupler. A multicoupler permits a number of transmitters and receivers to operate effectively on different frequencies from the same antenna, simultaneously and without interfering with one another.

As described in the present application and shown in, for example, Fig. 16, transmission signals from the transmission signal formation sections 36a, 36b and 36c are modulated into signals of different frequency bands by the transmission processing section 37S and transmitted to the display apparatus 4, 5 and 6 (Fig. 15) through the multicoupler 37K and a transmission/reception antenna 38. Publ. App. par. [0207]. Similarly, the channel selection apparatus 3 demodulates signals from the display apparatus 4, 5 and 6 received through the transmission/reception antenna and the multicoupler 37K. Publ. App. par. [0207] and FIG. 16.

Thus, the present invention transmits the transmission signals in different frequency bands as opposed to time-division multiplexing as disclosed in Hylton. Moreover, the present invention transmission signal formation sections provide broadcast signals for transmission that are modulated into signals of different frequency bands. The modulated signals of different frequency bands are provided to the multicoupler and thence a transmission/reception.

Hylton does not describe an apparatus having the elements recited in claim 1 and arranged in the manner recited in the claim.

Neither Ballantyne nor Phillips adds the elements and arrangement missing from Hylton.

Claim 1, is believed patentable over Hylton, Balantyne and Phillips because those references taken alone or in combination do not teach or suggest each and every element recited in the claim.

Claims 7, 13, 19 and 24 are believed patentable for substantially the same reasons as claim 1.

III. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims are dependent from one of the claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION


Claims 1-24 are in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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